(h) The total pendency of the application with the Debts Recovery Tribunal shall not exceed four months from the date of making application.

(i) If the application is not disposed of by the Debts Recovery Tribunal within the period of four months, any party to the application may make an application to the appellate tribunal for directing the Debts Recovery Tribunal for expeditious disposal of the application pending before the Debts Recovery Tribunal. The appellate tribunal may make an order for expeditious disposal of the pending application by the Debts Recovery Tribunal.

(j) No appeal to the Appellate Tribunal against the order of Debts Recovery Tribunal by a borrower to be entertained unless the borrower deposits 50 per cent of the amount due from him, which may be reduced by the Appellate Tribunal to not less than 25 per cent of the debt due.

Merger of RRBs with sponsor Banks

2209. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether three Nationalised Banks have submitted proposals for amalgamating some of the Regional Rural Banks sponsored by them and the proposals are awaiting the response of the respective State Governments;

(b) whether the consolidation proposals are lying with him and will be proceeded further after Government have received the States' views on this issue; and

(c) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) As a step towards consolidation of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) sponsored by the same bank within a State, a meeting was held on 16th February 2005 with the representatives of some sponsor banks of RRBs and the State Governments concerned for considering amalgamation of RRBs. The proposals for amalgamation of three RRBs sponsored by Bank of Baroda in Gujarat, three RRBs

sponsored by Dena Bank in Gujarat, two RRBs sponsored by Indian Bank in Tamil Nadu, three RRBs sponsored by Central Bank of India in Maharashtra and three RRBs sponsored by Punjab National Bank in Punjab have been approved by the respective State Governments and are being further processed.

Transfer policy of SBI, Delhi region

2210. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the transfer policy for officers and staff is not adhered by the State Bank of India in Delhi region;

(b) whether it is a fact that some officers and staff are working for more than five years in the branches like Nirman Bhawan, Sansadiya Soudh, etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to rotate officers and staff every five years as provided in the service manual of the bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that, by and large, the transfer policy for officers and staff is being adhered to, in the Delhi region.

(b) to (d) At the Nirman Bhawan branch, three officers have completed more than 5 years. Besides, there are four officers in that branch who have to be transferred locally, as they have completed three years. As regards, the Sansadiya Soudh branch there is only one officer who has completed 5 years in 2004. He is to be transferred out in the annual transfer exercise conducted from April, 2005 onwards. As regards the award staff, there are three members each, in the Nirman Bhawan and the Sansadiya Soudh branches, who have completed more than five years. The position is being reviewed periodically by the respective controllers of the banks and deviations, if any, rectified during the annual transfer exercise.